

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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DRAFTED BY EA/TB:JBDEXTER:AVW

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S/NM:HWELLMAN (DRAFT)

EA:HBARGE(DRAFT)

AID/LT:NSWEET (DRAFT)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

S E C R E T STATE 212182

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SNAR, BM

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: RANGOON 2508

1. IN YOUR FAREWELL CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AND OTHERS, SUGGEST THAT AT YOUR DISCRETION YOU COULD USE POINTS IN FOLLOWING PARAS (IN ADDITION TO REAFFIRMING RESPECT FOR GUB'S NON-ALIGNED STANCE):

2. WE ARE IMPRESSED WITH RECENT GUB MEASURES TO SUPPRESS NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, ESPECIALLY IN SHAN STATE, AND CONTINUE IN OUR DESIRE TO HELP. IN THIS CONNECTION, GUB NARCOTICS EQUIPMENT REQUEST IS BEING REVIEWED AT HIGH LEVEL

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AND WE HOPE TO HAVE DECISION SHORTLY. YOU CAN EXPLAIN THAT WE REGRET DELAY, WHICH IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO NEED TO STAFF OUT THOROUGHLY US RESPONSE TO BURMESE REQUEST IN

INTERAGENCY CONTEXT AND WITH LEGISLATIVE BRANCH. (FYI: REGRET WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET INSTRUCTIONS TO YOU BEFORE YOU DEPART. END FYI) GUB OFFICIALS MAY BE ASSURED AGAIN THAT WE DO NOT INTEND TO TREAT WITH SHAN STATE DISSIDENTS-CUM-TRAFFICKERS BEHIND THEIR BACKS.

3. WE HAVE NOTED WITH INTEREST RECENT GUB TREND TOWARD EXPANDING RELATIONS WITH OUTSIDE WORLD, INCLUDING ASEAN NEIGHBORS. WE THINK THIS IS HEALTHY AND WILL HELP BUTTRESS BURMA'S INDEPENDENT AND NON-ALIGNED POSITION

VIS-A-VIS THE BIG POWERS. IT WILL ALSO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL COOPERATION.

4. WE ARE FOLLOWING CLOSELY AND HOPEFULLY GUB EFFORTS TO USE RESOURCES OF FOREIGN FIRMS, INCLUDING UNITED STATES, FOR OFFSHORE OIL EXPLORATION. WE HOPE EXPERIMENT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL AND ENCOURAGE GUB TO CONSIDER SIMILAR COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH FOREIGN FIRMS FOR EXPLOITATION OF OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES.

5. WE ARE AWARE OF THOUGHT GUB IS GIVING TO IDEA OF INTERNATIONAL DONOR GROUP TO COORDINATE AID TO BURMA. WHILE UNITED STATES IS NOT AT PRESENT A DONOR, WE ARE MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS THAT MIGHT BE INVOLVED AND, AS SUCH, WOULD HAVE AN INTEREST. OUR EXPERIENCE WITH SIMILAR GROUPINGS FOR OTHER COUNTRIES (E.G., THAILAND AND INDONESIA) SUGGESTS THIS IS USEFUL AND WE WOULD LOOK FAVORABLY UPON IT. KISSINGER

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